



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter
101 Eighth Street
Oakland, CA 94607-4700
TEL 510.817.5700
TTY/TDD 510.817.5769
FAX 510.817.5848
E-MAIL info@mtc.ca.gov
WEB www.mtc.ca.gov

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Alameda County

March 15, 2010

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Deputy Chief of Staff and Director
Governor's Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: California Household Travel Survey

This letter demonstrates the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) support of the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans) Proposal to the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) for additional funds to develop the California Household Travel Survey (CHTS).

MTC is the transportation planning, funding, and advocacy agency for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. MTC will use the CHTS data to estimate, calibrate, and validate its regional travel demand models; this data is critical to accomplish these tasks.

Caltrans, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), county transportation agencies and other state agencies are working together on this effort, and have organized the CHTS Steering Committee to guide data collection efforts for state, regional and local needs. The Steering Committee has determined that as much as \$12 million will be required to fully fund the CHTS to secure enough sample data for California's cities, counties and state agencies to adequately analyze Sustainable Community Strategies and/or Alternative Planning Strategies. As a result, we support Caltrans' request to the SGC for an additional \$2 million grant to conduct the 2010/2011 CHTS.

Robust CHTS data will support analysis of weekday and weekend travel by all modes and activities, including characteristics of the people traveling, their household, and their vehicles. The 2010/2011 CHTS will provide information on personal travel to support analyses of travel patterns at the household level for modeling and planning for the next ten years. CHTS information will also be used to address a variety of transportation related questions and support the travel demand modeling and planning needs to build the next generation of travel demand model systems as required by SB 375.

Sincerely,

Doug Kimsey, Planning Director

CC: Julia Lave Johnston, Coco Briseno, Sarah Chesebro
DK: SI: DO

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